

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 remain in this application. Claims 1-18 and 20 were rejected by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,324,542 in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,857,201.

With regard to claim 1, the Examiner states that the '542 patent does not explicitly disclose a broker which receives the query from the mobile device. The Examiner also states that the '201 patent discloses a broker which receives the query from the mobile devices in Figure 3. Applicants is confused by this argument because the '542 patent is a continuation of the '201 patent and both references contain the same figures and specification. In Figure 3 of both the '201 and '542 patents, a message handler 184 communicates with multiple clients. The message handler 184 is a part of the FL server 132 and is illustrated within the FL Server 132. ('201, Col. 7:26-29, Fig. 3.) In contrast, the broker 210 is a computer running the local assistant program that is independent of the mini-server 220. (application, paragraphs 179-180) For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submits that the '201 and '542 patents only disclose a server that receives the query from the mobile device and that the disclosed server computer is not a broker computer.

With regard to claims 2 and 3, Applicants amend the claim to add the limitations that the mini-server rules database stores data processing rules and that the broker and mini-server as independent computers to clarify that these are separate devices. The Examiner argued that the '542 patent discloses a mini-server having a mini-server rules database and cites a portion of the patent that discloses connecting PDAs to databases. As discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the '201 and '542 patents only disclose a message handler that is part of the server. Applicants also respectfully submit that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose a "rules" database. The cited patents disclose various types of databases (Microsoft Access, Oracle, etc.) that store business information, such as work orders. ('542 patent, Col. 4, lines 44-53.) The

references do not disclose databases that store data processing rules that are instructions used by the mini-server to perform data processing. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose or suggest a mini-server rules database that stores data processing rules or a broker and mini-server that are independent computers.

With respect to claims 4 and 5, Applicants respectfully argue that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose any information pertaining to the formatting of information for the visual displays of the mobile devices.

With regard to claims 6-9, Applicants amend claim 6 to specify that the broker connects to the personal agent after the broker receives the query from the mobile device and to expressly claim the broker and personal agent as independent computers. The sequence of communications starting with mobile device sending a query to the broker is important for security and the system is configured so that the broker will not initiate connections with the personal agent computers. In contrast, the '201 and '542 patents only disclose a system in which the message handler initiates communications with the clients. Another distinction is that the "agent" disclosed by the '201 and '542 patents is software device ('542 patent, Col. 7, lines 45-54), whereas the claimed agent is a separate computer. Applicants respectfully argue that the '542 patent does not disclose a system in which the broker and personal agent computer are independent computers or a broker that initiates connections with the personal agent computers in response to the broker receiving a query from the mobile device.

With regard to claims 10 and 11, Applicants amend claim 10 to describe the mini-server rules database, the personal agent rules database and the broker rules database as each storing data processing rules and the mini-server, personal agent and broker as separate computers. As

discussed above in claims 2 and 7, Applicants respectfully submit that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose a mini-server, personal agent and broker that are each separate computers or databases that store rules for processing data.

Claim 12 has been amended to add the limitation that the mini-sever rules database stores data processing rules. The Examiner states that the '542 patent does not explicitly disclose a mobile device which generates a query that includes identification information. The Examiner also states that the '201 patent discloses a mobile device which generates a query that includes identification information in Figure 3. Applicants are confused by this argument because the '542 patent is a continuation of the '201 patent and both references contain the same figures and specification. Applicants submit that both the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose a mobile device for generating a query which includes identification information.

With regard to claim 13, Applicants respectfully submits that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose any information obtained and formatted by the mini-server for the visual display of the mobile device.

With regard to claim 14, Applicants respectfully submit that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose any communications that include security information.

With regard to claims 15, 16 and 18 and for the same reasons discussed above in claim 12, Applicants submit that both the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose a broker that is a separate computer or a mobile device for generating a query which includes identification information.

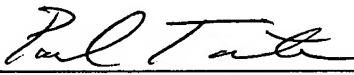
With regard to claims 17 and 20, Applicants submit that the '201 and '542 patents do not disclose any communications that include security information.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claim 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are patentable over the cited prior art and request that they be allowed. The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned collect at (415) 705-6377 if there are any outstanding issues or questions which can be resolved to allow this application to be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,
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